February 2, 2012

The Honorable Dave Camp
Chairman
Ways & Means Committee
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sander Levin
Ranking Member
Ways & Means Committee
1106 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

ACPPA URGES THE REMOVAL OF THE CAP ON PRIVATE ACTIVITY BONDS FOR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

I am writing to express the concrete pressure pipe industry's strong support for the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act (H.R. 1802) and urge you to include a version of the bill in the financing title of the American Energy & Infrastructure Jobs Act.

The Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act would remove the state volume cap on private activity bonds (PABs or exempt facility bonds) that fund water and waste water infrastructure projects. Removing the PAB volume cap will increase private investment in water infrastructure, create jobs, and address years of underfunding in one of our nation's greatest resources—clean water. According to estimates, the legislation could generate as much as $5 billion annually in incremental private capital for water infrastructure projects with a nominal cost to the federal government.

H.R. 1802 is a positive step to begin addressing an infrastructure crisis that threatens public health, the environment, and the economic vitality of communities across America. With tens of billions of dollars worth of ready to go water projects around the country, there is every reason to believe that leveraging private investments in waster infrastructure will have an immediate and positive effect on the broader economy.

Investing in water infrastructure will help the nation's economic recovery and reverse stubborn unemployment in the construction industry. In fact, according to a recent study by the Clean Water Council (CWC), an estimated 20,003 to 26,669 jobs can result from a national investment of $1 billion. These job opportunities are spread across the economy with nearly half of the jobs in industries other than water and wastewater construction, demonstrating the broad reach of water infrastructure investment.

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The plight of the nation's water infrastructure network grows worse every day. The time is long overdue for substantial investment in water infrastructure projects.

ACCPA looks forward to working with you to invest in our nation's water infrastructure to create jobs, grow the economy, protect the environment, and improve the quality of life for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Lawhun, P.E.
President

cc: Ways & Means Committee Members

ACPPA Member Companies
Ameron International Corporation, Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Hanson Pressure Pipe, Dallas, TX
Munro Concrete Products, Ltd., Ontario, Canada
Vianini Pipe, Inc., Somerville, NJ